CLAIMS

1.   A method for developing encoded instructions, comprising the steps of:

generating a plurality of encoded statements;

automatically maintaining a record of status of each respective encoded statement;

editing a first encoded statement of said plurality of encoded statements to produce an edited first encoded statement;

automatically determining whether one or more copies of said first encoded statement exist from said status of each respective encoded statement; and

responsive to said automatically determining step, automatically propagating changes made by said editing step to said one or more copies of said first encoded statement.

2.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 1, wherein said encoded statements are source code for compilation into object code executable by a computer system.

3.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 1, wherein said automatically propagating step comprises:

automatically displaying said changes made by said editing step to at least one said copy of said first encoded statement; and

soliciting user confirmation of said changes.

4.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 1, wherein said status of each respective encoded statement comprises data indicating whether the respective encoded statement has been verified.

1   5.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 4, wherein said data
2   indicating whether a respective encoded statement has been verified indicates whether the
3   respective statement has been verified as part of a compilation process for compiling source
4   code into object code executable by a computer system.

1   6.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 1, further comprising the
2   steps of:
3   receiving a user command to copy a second of said plurality of encoded statements
4   to a different location within said plurality of encoded statements;
5   responsive to receiving said user command, automatically determining whether said
6   second encoded statement has been previously verified from said status of each respective
7   encoded statement; and
8   if said second encoded statement has not been previously verified, automatically
9   warning a user that said second encoded statement is unverified.

1   7.   A method for developing encoded instructions, comprising the steps of:
2   generating a plurality of encoded statements;
3   automatically maintaining a record of status of each respective encoded statement;
4   receiving a user command to copy a first of said plurality of encoded statements to
5   a different location within said plurality of encoded statements;
6   responsive to receiving said user command, automatically determining whether said
7   first encoded statement has been previously verified from said status of each respective
8   encoded statement; and
9   if said first encoded statement has not been previously verified, automatically
10   performing at least one action in response to determining that said first encoded statement
11   is unverified.

8.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 7, wherein said step of automatically performing at least one action in response to determining that said first encoded statement is unverified comprises issuing a warning message to a user.

9.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 7, wherein said encoded statements are source code for compilation into object code executable by a computer system.

10.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 9, wherein said step of automatically determining whether said first encoded statement has been previously verified comprises automatically determining whether said first encoded statement has successfully completed some portion of a compilation process for compiling source code into object code executable by a computer system.

11.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 7, wherein said status of each respective encoded statement comprises data indicating whether the respective statement was copied from another encoded statement.

12.   The method for developing encoded instructions of claim 11, wherein said step of automatically determining whether said first encoded statement has been verified comprises automatically determining whether said first encoded statement was copied from another statement which has been previously verified.

1   13.   A computer program product for developing encoded instructions, comprising:

2   a plurality of executable instructions recorded on signal-bearing media, wherein said

3 instructions, when executed by at least one processor of a digital computing device, cause

4 the device to perform the steps of:

5   generating a plurality of encoded statements responsive to user input;

6   automatically maintaining a record of status of each respective encoded statement;

7   receiving a user input editing a first encoded statement of said plurality of encoded

8 statements to produce an edited first encoded statement;

9   automatically determining whether one or more copies of said first encoded statement

10 exist from said status of each respective encoded statement; and

11   responsive to said automatically determining step, automatically propagating changes

12 made by said editing step to said one or more copies of said first encoded statement.

1   14.   The computer program product for developing encoded instructions of claim 13,

2 wherein said encoded statements are source code for compilation into object code executable

3 by a computer system.

1   15.   The computer program product for developing encoded instructions of claim 13,

2 wherein said automatically propagating step comprises:

3   automatically displaying said changes made by said editing step to at least one said

4 copy of said first encoded statement; and

5   soliciting user confirmation of said changes.

1   16.   The computer program product for developing encoded instructions of claim 13,

2 wherein said status of each respective encoded statement comprises data indicating whether

3 the respective encoded statement has been verified.

1   17.   The computer program product for developing encoded instructions of claim 16,
2   wherein said data indicating whether a respective encoded statement has been verified
3   indicates whether the respective statement has been verified as part of a compilation process
4   for compiling source code into object code executable by a computer system.

1   18.   The computer program product for developing encoded instructions of claim 13,
2   wherein said instruction further cause the device to perform the steps of:
3   receiving a user command to copy a second of said plurality of encoded statements
4   to a different location within said plurality of encoded statements;
5   responsive to receiving said user command, automatically determining whether said
6   second encoded statement has been previously verified from said status of each respective
7   encoded statement; and
8   if said second encoded statement has not been previously verified, automatically
9   warning a user that said second encoded statement is unverified.